

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

THE TIBETAN FREEDOM CONCERT

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 1996

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of my colleagues an important event which is taking place in San Francisco this weekend. The Tibetan Freedom Concert, a 2-day music festival for a free Tibet, begins this Saturday in Golden Gate Park. More than 20 well-known popular music artists, from the Beastie Boys and the Smashing Pumpkins to bay area natives Pavement, have donated their time and their talent to draw attention to the plight of the Tibetan people.

Leading the way to inspire our youth is a San Francisco-based organization called the Milarepa fund which publicizes and supports the Tibetan peoples' nonviolent struggle for freedom. The Milarepa fund's diligent efforts to promote human rights in China are making an important contribution to furthering public awareness of the Tibetan tragedy, and they are reaching out to the next generation to help them develop an understanding of human rights violations throughout the world.

I urge my colleagues to follow the example being set by the thousands of young women and men who will be attending the Freedom Concert. They have taken it upon themselves to learn more about the terrible human rights violations that the Chinese Government inflicts daily upon the citizens of Tibet. They are concerned about the deforestation of the Tibetan Plateau. They are outraged by the ongoing pattern of forced abortions and sterilization of Tibetan women. And they are mobilizing to stop the continuing genocide of the Tibetan people.

Among the actions being suggested is a boycott of Chinese goods in order to send a clear message to the government in Beijing that their actions are reprehensible. Household items marked "Made in China" are often manufactured in forced labor camps by political prisoners who have been jailed for doing nothing more than expressing their opinions or practicing their religious beliefs. The boycott is helping consumers learn about the interdependence of economics, politics, and their everyday actions. The sooner we understand this interdependence, the sooner we can ensure basic human and environmental rights throughout the world.

I comment the organizers of this concert, the artists who are performing and the activists who labor every day to advance the cause of human rights around the globe. They are not alone.

THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM

HON. KAREN L. THURMAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 1996

Mrs. THURMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to recognize the 50th anniversary of the National School Lunch Program. In public schools across America, 25 million students receive nutritional meals because of the School Lunch Program. For many children, a school lunch is the only healthy meal they eat all day. School lunches improve children's overall health, thereby increasing their learning capacity and lengthening their attention spans. The School Lunch Program highlights the essential role the Government can play in protecting the health and well-being of our children. As a former teacher, I have firsthand knowledge of what a hot meal can mean to a hungry and distracted student.

It is also my great pleasure to express my gratitude to the dedicated educators, administrators, staff, and parents who have worked to ensure the success of the National School Lunch Program.

The longevity of the program is the result of the partnership between the Federal Government and local communities, working together to feed, educate, and care for our Nation's children.

Therefore, I am delighted to celebrate National School Lunch Week, and I look forward to continued support and funding for this program that is so vital to our children's current health and future growth.

PAUSE FOR THE PLEDGE

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 1996

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, every day, we begin the session of the House of Representatives—the people's House—by reciting the pledge of allegiance. The House has been following this practice for nearly 8 years, since September 1988, and it has become part of the rhythm of this institution.

There is a place, though, Mr. Speaker, where the pledge of allegiance and, indeed, the flag itself are even more at the center of attention than in this Chamber. I am speaking of Fort McHenry, in Baltimore, which stands as a monument honoring the history of the flag, and of our national anthem.

As you know, Mr. Speaker, tomorrow, June 14, is Flag Day and this week is National Flag Week. Each year, the National Flag Day Foundation, which I am proud to say is located in Maryland's Third Congressional District, organizes and participates in a "pause for the pledge" at Fort McHenry, at exactly 7 in the evening on June 14.

The National Flag Day Foundation encourages all Americans to join in the 7 o'clock pause for the pledge. This grassroots concept of national unity started in Baltimore in 1980. It is a wonderful, patriotic program. This simple ceremony provides an opportunity for all Americans, whenever they are, to display simultaneously their love and respect for our flag and our country.

Fort McHenry, of course, is the point from which Francis Scott Key, during the War of 1812, watched "By the Dawn's Early Light" as the American Navy battled for the survival of the young country. Every year at the fort, thousands of Americans are thrilled to see "that star-spangled banner yet wave, o'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave." For any of my colleagues who have not had the opportunity to visit Fort McHenry, I strongly recommend it as a stirring experience.

Tomorrow evening, at 7 p.m., the National Flag Day Foundation will again celebrate the pause for the pledge. Had we been in session and voting tomorrow, I had hoped to lead the House in the pledge in conjunction with the celebration. Now, since the House will not conduct legislative business tomorrow, I would take this opportunity to urge all my colleagues to make the pause for the pledge part of their Flag Day observation.

It is my pleasure at this point to include in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the simple, profound words that every American knows so well.

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

A TRIBUTE TO EVA SILVER JOHNSON

HON. EVA M. CLAYTON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 1996

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Eva Silver Johnson for her community service and civic leadership. On June 15, 1996, friends and family members will gather in Littleton, NC, to celebrate her 75 years of life.

Mrs. Johnson was born on June 5, 1921, in Hollister, NC, the oldest daughter of Mr. Ben Silver and Mrs. Minnie Burgess Silver. She attended Tabron School in Halifax County and Hawkins High School in Warren County. At the age of 24 she married the late Edward Leonard Johnson, Jr. She worked as a housewife raising four children, Mable, Alice, Edward, and Delores. Mrs. Johnson managed the Edward Ned Johnson, Sr. farm, in Warren County, NC. In 1967, Mrs. Johnson joined the Halifax County School System Food Service Division where she worked for 19 years retiring in 1986.

Today, Mrs. Johnson is the part-time assistant manager of the Littleton Community Senior

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.